

2007-2008 Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits

| Species | Bag Limit | Zone (page 7) | Season Dates | | | | | | | Notes |
|--|--|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|--------------|--|--------------|------------------|------|-------|
| | | | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | |
| Black Bear | 1 | See note 1 | Sept. 10 - Oct. 26 | | | | | | | 1 |
| Cottontail Rabbit and Varying Hare | 5 per day 10 combined possession | Statewide | Sept. 15 - Mar. 31 | | | | | | | |
| Crow | No Limit | Zone 1 Zones 2,3 | Aug. 1-Sept. 30 Aug. 1-Sept. 30 | | | | | Feb. 1 - Mar. 31 | | 2 |
| Deer | If you take 2 antlered deer, see pages 20-21 for minimum antler size requirements. | | | | | | | | | |
| Youth Deer | 1 | Statewide | Sept. 22 - 23 | | | | | | | 10 |
| Special Disabled Firearm Hunt | 1 per kill tag | Statewide See page 15 | | Oct. 20 - 21 | | | | | | |
| Archery | 1 per kill tag | Statewide | | Oct. 1 - Nov. 14 | | Dec. 1-Jan. 1 | | | | 3 |
| Regular Firearm | 1 per kill tag | Statewide | | | Nov. 15 - 30 | | | | | 3 |
| Muzzleloading | 1 per kill tag | Zone 1 Zone 2 Zone 3 | | | | Dec. 7 - 16 Dec. 14 - 23 Dec. 7 - 23 | | | | 3 |
| Late Firearm | 1 per kill tag | See note 4 | | | | Dec. 17 - Jan. 1 | | | | 4 |
| Elk | 1 | See note 1 | Aug. 25 - 29 & Sept. 15 - 18 | | | Dec. 11 - 18 | Jan. 16 - 20 | | | 1 |
| Pheasant (male) | 2 per day 4 possession | Zone 1 Zones 2,3 Zone 3 | | Oct. 10 - 31 Oct. 20 - Nov. 14 Dec. 1 - Jan. 1 | | | | | | 5,6 |
| Quail | 5 per day 10 possession | See page 27 | | Oct. 20 - Nov. 14 | | | | | | 9 |
| Ruffed Grouse | See note 7 | Statewide | Sept. 15 - Nov. 14 | | | Dec. 1 - Jan. 1 | | | | 7 |
| Squirrel Fox and Gray (black phase included) | 5 per day 10 possession | Statewide | Sept. 15 - March 1 | | | | | | | |
| Fall Wild Turkey | 1 | See note 8 | | Oct. 8 - Nov. 14 | | | | | | 8 |
| Woodcock | 3 per day 6 possession | Statewide | Sept. 22 - Nov. 5 | | | | | | | 9 |

Notes:

1. See the 2007 Bear Hunting Guide or 2007 Elk Hunting Guide for more information.
2. Crows may be taken outside the open season during hunting hours, in compliance with federal regulations, if these birds are causing a nuisance or creating a health hazard.
3. See page 21 for antler restriction regulations in DMUs 045, 117, 122, 135 and 245.
4. Antlerless deer on private land only. See page 22 for open DMUs.
5. Zone 1 is open only in an area bordered by M-189 on the west and south of M-69 and US-2 from Iron River to Escanaba.
6. See December Pheasant Season map on page 28.
7. Zones 1 and 2: five per day/10 in possession. Zone 3: three per day/six in possession.
8. See the 2007 Fall Wild Turkey Guide for more information.
9. Shotguns must be plugged so they are capable of holding no more than three shells. A federal waterfowl stamp is not required to hunt woodcock. HIP endorsement required. See page 30.
10. Any deer.

Opossum, porcupine, weasel, red squirrel, skunk, ground squirrel and woodchuck may be taken year-round with a valid small game hunting license. Starling, feral pigeons and English sparrows may be taken with a firearm year-round with any valid hunting license. See state park and recreation area restrictions on page 33.

Hunters, Learn to Identify “Button Bucks”

Each year many hunters harvest buck fawns, commonly called “button bucks” on antlerless deer licenses. Though perfectly legal, harvesting these deer may reduce the number of antlered bucks the following year. By learning the difference between adult does and buck fawns and observing these suggestions, hunters can make a conscious choice on whether to harvest a buck fawn.

- ❑ Look at body shapes of deer. Adult does are different in shape from juvenile deer. The mature doe is rectangular in shape with a long neck and face. Fawns are square shaped and have a short neck and face.
- ❑ Button bucks often travel alone, but adult does rarely do. Consider this when you observe a single antlerless deer.
- ❑ Wait until several deer are together; then harvest one of the larger antlerless deer.
- ❑ If two juvenile deer are without an adult, one will probably be a button buck. Normally the young male is larger than the female and may be mistaken for an adult doe because of its larger size. Look at the head of the deer. A doe’s head is normally more rounded on top between the ears and a buck’s head is flattened by the base of the antlers.
- ❑ Look closely with binoculars for the antler bases on button bucks.
- ❑ Wait until the deer are standing or moving slowly. It is easier to identify sex and age when deer are not running or moving fast.
- ❑ Shoot with good visibility. Poor light or heavy cover makes it difficult to determine sex and age.

Restrictions on Off-Road Vehicles and Snowmobiles

At all times it is illegal to operate an Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) on public lands in the Lower Peninsula not posted open. Snowmobiles are prohibited at any time on state game areas or state parks and recreation areas unless posted open.

Time Restrictions—It is illegal to operate an ORV or a snowmobile between the hours of 7 to 11 a.m. and 2 to 5 p.m. on any area open to public hunting during the Nov. 15-30 firearm deer season.

Exceptions: The time restrictions on the use of ORVs and snowmobiles do not apply during an emergency or while traveling to and from a permanent residence or hunting camp that is otherwise inaccessible by a conventional wheeled vehicle.

The time restrictions on the use of ORVs also do not apply to retrieve a legally taken deer, to private landowners and their invited guests, to motor vehicles licensed under the Michigan Vehicle Code operating on roads capable of sustaining automobile traffic, to a disabled person using a designated trail or forest road for hunting or fishing purposes, or to a person with a valid permit to hunt from a standing vehicle.

Hunters, Do NOT Move Firewood

Hunters can help stop the spread of the emerald ash borer (EAB) in Michigan by leaving firewood at home and buying it after they reach their destination. Moving firewood can spread EAB and puts Michigan’s 700 million ash trees at risk. A quarantine is in place which prohibits the movement of all non-coniferous (hardwood) firewood out of quarantined areas. The movement of non-coniferous firewood into the Upper Peninsula is illegal. For more information, visit www.emeraldashborer.info, or call the EAB hotline at 866-325-0023.

Safe Hunting is No Accident. The DNR encourages all first-time hunters to take a hunter safety course. These classes are held in every county and in most communities at least once each year. Information on classes can be found on the DNR Web site: www.michigan.gov/dnr. Individuals also can take a part of the course online. **Be a Safe and Responsible Hunter!**

Protected Wildlife

Eagles, hawks, owls, spruce and sharp-tailed grouse, wolverines, wolves, lynx, moose, cougars, cub bears, and sows accompanied by cubs, and all white or albino deer may not be taken at any time. All nongame birds are protected, except starlings, English sparrows and feral pigeons.

Control of Certain Nuisance Species

Any ear-tagged cervids (members of the deer and elk family) found outside of a fence of a registered cervidae facility for more than 48 hours may be taken by hunting during designated deer and elk seasons if the individual has a valid hunting license.

Certain exotic cervids found outside of a fence of a cervidae facility for more than 48 hours may be taken by hunting year-round if the individual has a valid hunting license.

Hunters also may shoot feral swine (free-ranging pigs) within certain Michigan counties if the individual has a valid hunting license of any type. The list of open counties may be accessed on the DNR Web site. Hunters who harvest a feral swine are asked to submit parts of the animal to a DNR office for disease testing.

Please contact a DNR Operations Service Center for further information.

Dog Training

You may train dogs on wild animals only from July 15 through April 15.

Exception: Michigan residents may train dogs on fox on state lands in Zone 3 (see page 7) under special permit.

Small Game

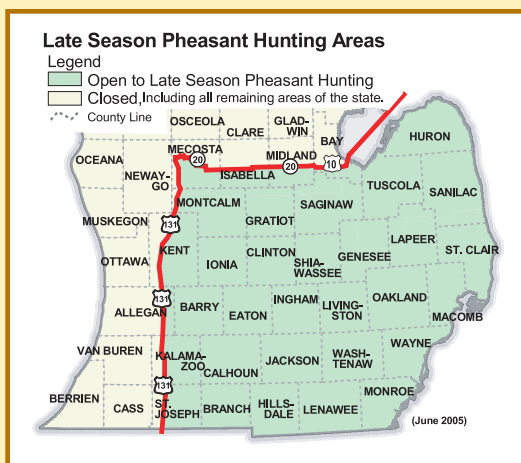
A small game license entitles you to hunt rabbit, hare, squirrel (fox and gray), pheasant, ruffed grouse, woodcock, quail, woodchuck, crow, skunk, coyote (applies to Michigan residents only) and waterfowl (with a federal waterfowl stamp and Michigan waterfowl hunting license, if age 16 or older) during the open season. No license is required for a resident, resident's spouse or resident's children to hunt small game on the enclosed farmlands where they live, except a federal waterfowl stamp and state waterfowl license are required to hunt waterfowl.

Quail

Quail can be hunted only in Branch, Calhoun, Clinton, Eaton, Genesee, Gratiot, Hillsdale, Huron, Ingham, Ionia, Jackson, Kent, Lapeer, Lenawee, Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Montcalm, Oakland, Saginaw, St. Clair, St. Joseph, Sanilac, Shiawassee, Tuscola, Washtenaw and Wayne counties. All other counties are closed to quail hunting.

Pheasant

In addition to the October pheasant hunting seasons, the shaded area shown at right is open to pheasant hunting Dec. 1-Jan. 1 for the taking of male pheasants.



Game Bird Hunting Preserves

All persons hunting on a licensed game bird hunting preserve must have a current Michigan small game license or game bird hunting preserve license.

Waterfowl

Michigan Waterfowl Hunting License

In addition to a small game license, all waterfowl hunters age 16 and older are required to purchase a Michigan Waterfowl License. For information on waterfowl seasons, bag limits and other regulations, see the 2007-2008 Michigan Waterfowl Hunting Guide (available Sept. 10) and the 2007 Waterfowl Reserved Hunt brochure (available Aug. 1).

Federal Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp

This stamp is required for all waterfowl hunters 16 and older, including people hunting on their own enclosed farmland. Federal waterfowl stamps are not required for hunting woodcock, rails and snipe. The federal stamp must be signed across its face with your name in ink. The stamps are available at post offices and some Michigan license agents.

Early September Canada Goose Hunting

Dates: Sept. 1-10 in the Upper Peninsula and Saginaw, Tuscola and Huron counties (except areas noted below). Sept. 1-15 in the Lower Peninsula except Saginaw, Tuscola and Huron counties (except areas noted below).

Daily Limit: 3 Canada geese daily.

Possession Limit: 6 Canada geese.

Hunting Hours: One-half hour before sunrise to sunset. (See page 29.)

Open Hunt Areas: Statewide, excluding some wildlife areas and portions of some state parks and recreation areas. See map at right and additional information that follows.

(1) All or portions of the following areas are open Sept. 1 through Sept. 10

Port Crescent S.P.

Sleeper S.P.

(2) Portions of the following areas are open Sept. 1 through Sept. 15.

Bald Mountain R.A.
Bay City R.A.
Brighton R.A.
Grand Mere S.P.
Highland R.A.
Holly R.A.

Ionia R.A.
Lake Hudson R.A.
Negwegon S.P.
Ortonville R.A.
Pinckney R.A.
Pontiac Lake R.A.

Proud Lake R.A.
Rose Lake W.R.A.
Sleepy Hollow S.P.
Thompson's Harbor S.P.
Waterloo R.A.
Wetzel R.A.

(3) All or portions of the following areas are open Sept. 5 through Sept. 10.

Brimley S.P.
Craig Lake S.P.
Fayette S.P.
Indian Lake S.P.

Laughing Whitefish
Falls S.S.
McLain S.P.
Palms Book S.P.

Porcupine Mountains S.P.
Tahquamenon Falls S.P.
Van Riper S.P.
Wagner Falls S.S.

(4) All or portions of the following areas are open Sept. 5 through Sept. 15.

Cheboygan S.P.
Fisherman's Island S.P.
Fort Custer R.A.
Hoeft S.P.
Island Lake R.A.
Leelanau S.P.

Ludington S.P.
Metamora-Hadley R.A.
Rifle River R.A.
Seven Lakes S.P.
Silver Lake S.P.
South Higgins Lake S.P.

Sterling S.P.
Sturgeon Point S.P.
Wilderness S.P.
Yankee Springs R.A.

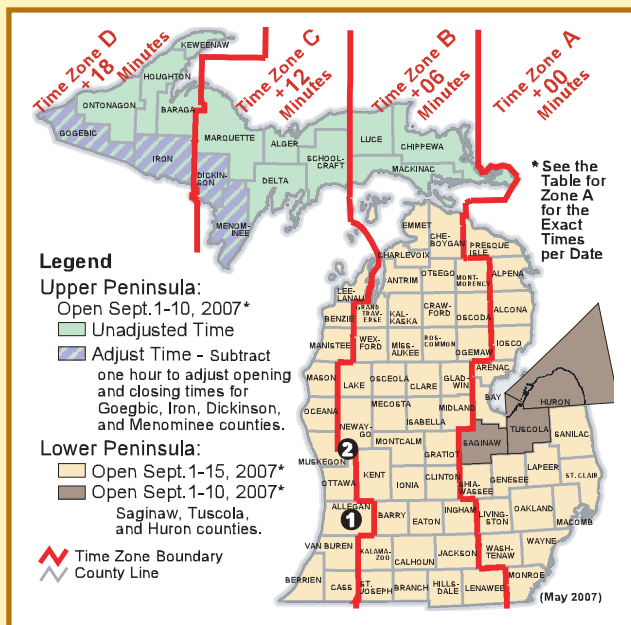
State Parks (S.P.), Scenic Sites (S.S.), Recreation Areas (R.A.) and Wildlife Research Areas (W.R.A)

Contact your local DNR Parks and Recreation or Wildlife office for detailed maps and information. Note: The early September season is closed within the following management units (see map below):

❶ The Highbanks, Fennville farm and Bravo units of the Allegan SGA.

❷ The Muskegon county wastewater system management unit.

| SEPT | ZONE A | |
|------|--------|------|
| DATE | AM | PM |
| 1 | 6:27 | 8:07 |
| 2 | 6:28 | 8:05 |
| 3 | 6:29 | 8:03 |
| 4 | 6:30 | 8:02 |
| 5 | 6:31 | 8:00 |
| 6 | 6:32 | 7:58 |
| 7 | 6:34 | 7:57 |
| 8 | 6:35 | 7:55 |
| 9 | 6:36 | 7:53 |
| 10 | 6:37 | 7:51 |
| 11 | 6:38 | 7:50 |
| 12 | 6:39 | 7:48 |
| 13 | 6:40 | 7:46 |
| 14 | 6:41 | 7:44 |
| 15 | 6:42 | 7:43 |



Migratory Game Birds

Harvest Information Program (HIP)

If you are planning to hunt migratory birds (ducks, geese, woodcock, snipe, rails, etc.) in Michigan this fall, you must have a Harvest Information Program endorsement printed on your small game license. The HIP endorsement, which consists of the statement: "Migratory Bird Hunter—YES," is printed on your small game license when you answer the HIP survey questions. There is no cost for this endorsement. If the agent fails to ask you the HIP question, you can do any of the following to receive the endorsement:

- ❑ Ask the agent to reissue the license.
- ❑ Visit the DNR e-license Web site at www.michigan.gov/dnr and select item # 005 — HIP migratory bird survey.
- ❑ Visit any DNR Operations Service Center.

If you purchase a waterfowl hunting license the HIP endorsement is automatically included. But it must be added by the agent if you are purchasing a small game license and plan to hunt woodcock. Persons who are hunting migratory birds without this endorsement can be fined.

Youth Hunting Opportunities

Youth Firearm Deer Season

There will be a youth firearm deer season Sept. 22-23, 2007, on all lands in Michigan. A youth 10-16 years of age with a firearm or combination license may take an antlered or antlerless deer during this special two-day season. An antlerless license or a Deer Management Assistance permit, if issued for the area/land upon which hunting, is valid for only antlerless deer. Archery and junior archery deer licenses are not valid for this hunt. The bag limit for this season is one deer.

Youths 10 and 11 years of age are restricted to archery-only hunting. Youths 12 and 13 are restricted to firearm hunting only on private land including lands enrolled in the Commercial Forest program. The youth must be accompanied by an adult at least 18 years of age or older. An adult accompanying a youth firearm deer hunter cannot possess or carry a firearm or bow and arrow and does not need a deer hunting license. Hunters may not use bait during this season. All youth hunters are required to wear hunter orange.

2007 Youth Waterfowl Weekend

Youth waterfowl hunting weekend will be Sept. 15-16 statewide for properly licensed youth (ages 10-15). The daily limit includes ducks, mergansers, geese, coots and moorhens. Youths must be accompanied by a parent, guardian or someone 18 or older designated by the parent or guardian. The adult is not allowed to hunt and is not required to have a waterfowl hunting license. For more details on daily shooting hours, daily limits and species restrictions, see the 2007-2008 Michigan Waterfowl Hunting Guide.

Youth Waterfowl Hunting on Managed Waterfowl Areas

For a list of hunting opportunities available for youth (ages 10-16) on managed waterfowl areas, see the 2007 Waterfowl Reserved Hunt Application Guide.